

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 628

By Faulk

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Hawkins County
Emergency Medical Services on receiving the
Star of Life Award from the Tennessee
Emergency Medical Services for Children.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause to salute the men and women of emergency medical services who, in the course of discharging their vital public duties, provide care that dramatically improves outcomes for their critically ill and injured patients; and

WHEREAS, Hawkins County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) employs a staff of the highest quality, and for their skill and dedication, Hawkins County EMS recently received the Star of Life Award from the Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children (TN EMSC), a non-profit organization that advocates for emergency and critical care for children; and

WHEREAS, the TN EMSC Star of Life Award honors the accomplishments of EMS personnel from all over the State of Tennessee who provide exemplary life-saving care to both adult and pediatric patients; and

WHEREAS, the Star of Life was awarded to both Hawkins County EMS and WellmontOne Air Transport for their joint effort in treating Bulls Gap resident Jamie C. Lawson, who was critically injured in a tractor accident on August 15, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lawson was ejected from the tractor he was operating and lost consciousness for an undetermined amount of time before waking and walking to a nearby home for help; Hawkins County EMS personnel responded to the call and quickly contacted WellmontOne, which provided helicopter transportation to Holston Valley Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, a thorough evaluation at Holston Valley revealed that Mr. Lawson had suffered a closed head injury and several fractures; he was admitted to intensive care, where he remained for five days; and

WHEREAS, thanks in no small part to the efforts of Hawkins County EMS and WellmontOne, Jamie Lawson has recovered fully from his injuries; and

WHEREAS, in a ceremony held May 12, 2009, at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown Hotel, Hawkins County EMS employees: Kevin Anderson, Jamie Miller, Amy Elam, and Gay Murrell, and WellmontOne flight nurse Kathleen Templeton and pilot Jim Whitman, were recognized for the excellent care they rendered that summer day; the event was scheduled to coincide with the beginning of Tennessee's Emergency Medical Services Week, which spans May 17 through May 23 this year; and

WHEREAS, the ceremony also included recognition and remembrance for the late Earl Morphew and WellmontOne flight paramedic who was also on duty that day; and

WHEREAS, members of emergency medical services teams, like those employed by Hawkins County EMS, engage in countless hours of specialized training and continuing education designed to enhance their lifesaving skills, and the care they provide dramatically improves survival and recovery rates for those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, these men and women are truly dedicated to the health and well-being of their fellow Tennesseans, and for their prodigious efforts on behalf of the people of this State, they should be duly recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Hawkins County Emergency Medical Services for receiving the Star of Life Award from the Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children and wish all the employees of Hawkins County EMS the very best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.